

**Weekly Weather
Crop Report**

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone:601-965-4575
Facsimile:601-965-5622
www.nass.usda.gov/ms/
nass-ms@nass.usda.gov/

Week Ending April 9, 2006

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, April 9, 2006**. Warm, dry weather this week encouraged operators to plant a significant amount of corn and soybeans. In areas that have not had much rain, land that was lush for grazing is turning short. In other regions, pastures are responding well to the warmer weather. Overall, the progression of crop growth in the state is coming along well. Soil moisture was rated 5 percent very short, 23 percent short, 60 percent adequate, and 12 percent surplus.

| Progress In Percentages | | | | | | Conditions in Percentages | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------|----------|---------------------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Item | Event | This Week | Last Week | 2005 | 5-Yr Avg | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
| Corn | Planted | 79 | 60 | 50 | 64 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| | Emerged | 53 | 26 | 30 | 36 | | | | | |
| Cotton | Planted | 1 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Rice | Planted | 6 | -- | 3 | 9 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Sorghum | Planted | 9 | 1 | 4 | 9 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Soybeans | Planted | 34 | 13 | 10 | 16 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| | Emerged | 10 | -- | 2 | 5 | | | | | |
| Wheat | Jointing | 86 | 77 | 91 | 80 | 0 | 4 | 27 | 57 | 12 |
| | Heading | 27 | 7 | 11 | 12 | | | | | |
| Hay (Cool Season) | Harvested | 2 | -- | 1 | 4 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Watermelons | Planted | 42 | 30 | 33 | 45 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Blueberries | | | | | | 0 | 2 | 29 | 53 | 16 |
| Cattle | | | | | | 1 | 9 | 38 | 40 | 12 |
| Pasture | | | | | | 1 | 10 | 27 | 50 | 12 |

County Agent Comments

“The rain Friday afternoon stopped all fieldwork. We have planted all of our Group IV soybeans, most of our corn, and started planting rice and cotton.”

— Don Respess, Bolivar

“We had almost two inches of rain from the storm system that came through Friday. We also had hail that was a little larger than golf-balls. I am glad we did not have anything up yet!”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Cool season pastures are beginning to catch up and get ahead of the cattle. Moisture has been adequate to short, depending on the specific location in North Mississippi. Fertilizer prices have prevented producers from applying ample amounts of nitrogen to carry ryegrass well into May. Growth and total dry matter produced will be reduced as we move into May.”

— Mike Howell, Lee

“Pasture and hay field weeds are responding to the warmer temperatures with rapid growth. Some areas are getting a little dry while others have adequate moisture.”

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

“Corn planting continued and soybean planting began. Winter grazing pastures continue to improve. About an inch of rain fell over the weekend. Luckily, the county avoided tornados spawned by the cold front that entered the state on Friday.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“Pastures need rain. Dry conditions are now critical, as it may severely limit ryegrass hay production if a significant amount of rain is not received in near future!”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“A lot of beans have gone in the ground over the last week. Those planted in mid March are up to stand. Warm weather has some cotton growers wanting to start planting.”

— Mack Young, Quitman

“Cotton seed-bed preparation made a good run this week. The late planting of corn and early soybeans were a big part of fieldwork this week. Cattle are being watched closely because of spring calving and chasing after this first flush of grass.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

“Some producers were able to start planting corn and apply burn-down herbicides. Favorable weather conditions are expected this week and producers will be busy in the fields.”

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

“Recent freezing temperatures had a minimal affect on wheat. Corn and soybean planting continued.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“Producers have begun burn-down and some field preparation started in higher fields. Rains, this weekend, delayed corn planting. Pastures and livestock conditions have improved with new forage growth.”

— Tim Needham, Tippah

“We had an excellent week for fieldwork. Corn planting was completed and many of the corn acres also received a nitrogen application. Soybean planting was very active. Some rice has been planted. In the south, a few acres of cotton have been planted. Most of the cotton work revolved around seed-bed preparation. Hail fell across the Central Delta Friday evening. Crop damage assessments will be made this week.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Planting progress has been phenomenal due to larger tractors and wider drills and planters. It just takes a week to ten days to complete planting.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“On Friday, there was rain with hail. Hopefully, it didn't damage emerging corn and soybeans.”

— Alma Harris, Washington

“We are dry. Ryegrass is slowing down due to dry conditions. We probably won't have much ryegrass hay to cut this year. Cattle are recovering from a rough winter due to feed shortages. Fieldwork is beginning for preparation for planting peanuts and cotton. Most forest land is in a very damaged state.”

— Lee Taylor, Forrest

“We are very dry. All planting has stopped due to dry conditions. Ryegrass is maturing due to warm, dry weather. Cattle are mostly in good condition. The commercial tomato crop was hurt by the last frost with a 30 percent loss.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“Producers took advantage of good weather to return to fields. Corn planters were rolling and land preparation for soybeans began. No cotton will be planted in the county this year.”

— Victor Lee, Newton

“Rain is needed for row crops. Livestock are shedding their winter hair. Winter forages are performing. If we continue to have eighty degree days with no rain, these forages will begin to mature. Summer forages are actively growing. Blueberry growers are running irrigation. Lumber mills have their inventory yards stockpiled.”

— Allen McReynolds, Wayne

Additional comments appear on the Internet at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ms/cwyears.htm>

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and has been continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
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Dr. Vance H. Watson, Interim Director

Southern Regional Climate Center
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Elizabeth Sanders
Service Climatologist

U.S. Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural
Statistics Service - Mississippi FO
Thomas L. Gregory, Director

Weather Summary from April 3, 2006 to April 9, 2006 for Mississippi

| District/Station | Air Temperature | | | | | Precipitation | | | | 4 Inch Soil Temperature | | | Avg Pan Evap |
|------------------|-----------------|-----|-----|------|-----|---------------|-------|-----------|------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|--------------|
| | Max | Min | Avg | Norm | DFN | One Week | DFN | Rain Days | Four Weeks | Max | Min | Avg | |
| 1. Upper Delta | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cleveland | 85 | 42 | 64 | 59 | +5 | 2.20 | +0.94 | 2 | 5.62 | | | | |
| Lambert | 85 | 40 | 62 | | | 0.63 | -0.49 | 2 | 2.89 | | | | |
| Tunica | 82 | 41 | 63 | 59 | +4 | 0.41 | -0.92 | 2 | 4.02 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 85 | 40 | 64 | 60 | +4 | 1.31 | -0.02 | 2 | 5.62 | | | | |
| 2. North-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Calhoun City | 83 | 38 | 62 | 59 | +3 | 1.41 | +0.08 | 2 | 4.14 | | | | |
| Hickory Flat | 81 | 35 | 59 | 57 | +2 | 2.38 | +1.08 | 2 | 5.37 | | | | |
| Independence | 81 | 36 | 59 | 57 | +2 | 1.50 | +0.37 | 2 | 4.99 | | | | |
| Oxford | 81 | 34 | 60 | 57 | +3 | 2.56 | +1.33 | 4 | 5.41 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 83 | 34 | 60 | 58 | +2 | 1.96 | +0.67 | 3 | 4.76 | | | | |
| 3. Northeast | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Booneville | 81 | 40 | 61 | 57 | +4 | 2.25 | +1.01 | 2 | 5.14 | | | | |
| Iuka | 79 | 31 | 56 | 55 | +1 | 2.56 | +1.31 | 2 | 4.27 | | | | |
| Ripley | 80 | 36 | 59 | 57 | +2 | 2.21 | +0.88 | 2 | 5.37 | | | | |
| Tupelo | 82 | 42 | 63 | | | 2.10 | | 2 | 4.46 | | | | |
| Verona | | | | 58 | | 2.41 | +1.14 | 2 | 5.40 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 82 | 31 | 60 | 58 | +2 | 2.28 | +1.00 | 2 | 4.82 | | | | |
| 4. Lower Delta | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Moorhead | 85 | 44 | 67 | 61 | +6 | 1.15 | -0.18 | 1 | 6.00 | | | | |
| Rolling Fork | 89 | 42 | 68 | 61 | +7 | 0.24 | -1.12 | 2 | 4.29 | | | | |
| Stoneville | 86 | 43 | 66 | 61 | +5 | 2.57 | +1.29 | 1 | 7.45 | | | | |
| Yazoo City | 86 | 44 | 65 | 62 | +3 | 0.12 | -1.34 | 1 | 3.44 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 89 | 42 | 67 | 62 | +5 | 1.32 | -0.01 | 1 | 5.87 | | | | |
| 5. Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canton | 87 | 40 | 66 | 62 | +4 | 0.32 | -1.06 | 2 | 1.10 | | | | |
| Carthage | 86 | 41 | 65 | 60 | +5 | 0.20 | -1.20 | 1 | 3.08 | | | | |
| Eupora | | | | 59 | | 0.00 | -1.37 | 0 | 2.80 | | | | |
| Lexington | | | | 60 | | | | | | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 87 | 40 | 65 | 60 | +5 | 0.26 | -1.14 | 2 | | | | | |
| 6. East-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aberdeen | 85 | 40 | 64 | 59 | +5 | 1.59 | +0.30 | 3 | 4.05 | | | | |
| Houston | 85 | 34 | 61 | 58 | +3 | 1.82 | +0.52 | 2 | 3.88 | | | | |
| Philadelphia | | | | 61 | | 0.50 | -0.87 | 1 | 3.79 | | | | |
| State University | 86 | 40 | 65 | 59 | +6 | 1.40 | +0.04 | 1 | 4.04 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 86 | 34 | 63 | 60 | +3 | 1.60 | +0.23 | 2 | 4.05 | | | | |
| 7. Southwest | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Crystal Springs | 85 | 42 | 68 | 63 | +5 | 0.15 | -1.32 | 2 | 2.70 | | | | |
| Natchez | 87 | 43 | 67 | 64 | +3 | 0.20 | -1.28 | 1 | 3.34 | | | | |
| Oakley | 87 | 43 | 65 | 61 | +4 | 0.10 | -1.37 | 1 | 3.28 | | | | |
| Vicksburg | 87 | 42 | 69 | | | 0.36 | | 2 | 5.27 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 87 | 42 | 67 | 62 | +5 | 0.20 | -1.27 | 2 | 3.99 | | | | |
| 8. South-Central | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Collins | 86 | 44 | 68 | 62 | +6 | 0.15 | -1.20 | 1 | 2.11 | | | | |
| Columbia | 85 | 46 | 69 | 63 | +6 | 0.07 | -1.36 | 1 | 3.03 | | | | |
| Tylertown | 85 | 49 | 71 | 63 | +8 | 0.05 | -1.28 | 1 | 2.41 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 86 | 44 | 68 | 63 | +5 | 0.11 | -1.30 | 1 | 2.57 | | | | |
| 9. Southeast | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Beaumont | | | | | | | | | 2.24 | | | | |
| Hattiesburg | 87 | 47 | 70 | 63 | +7 | 0.00 | -1.35 | 0 | 1.92 | | | | |
| Laurel | 86 | 45 | 67 | 62 | +5 | 0.02 | -1.22 | 1 | 2.91 | | | | |
| Newton | 86 | 40 | 66 | 60 | +6 | 0.17 | -1.30 | 1 | 5.36 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 87 | 40 | 68 | 62 | +6 | 0.01 | -1.33 | 1 | 2.91 | | | | |
| 10.Coastal | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gulfport | 86 | 51 | 72 | 65 | +7 | 0.00 | -1.19 | 0 | 0.06 | | | | |
| Pascagoula 3NE | 83 | 47 | 68 | 63 | +5 | 0.00 | -1.09 | 0 | 0.05 | | | | |
| Picayune | | | | 64 | | 0.00 | -1.28 | 0 | 0.10 | | | | |
| Extreme/Average | 86 | 47 | 70 | 64 | +6 | 0.00 | -1.23 | 0 | | | | | |
| State | 89 | 31 | 65 | 61 | +4 | 0.82 | -0.53 | 2 | 4.18 | | | | |

DFN = Departure from Normal.